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LONGBENTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

County of Northumberland.



Annual Reports

FOR THE YEAR

1947

OF

WILLIAM CUNNINGHAM,

M.B., Ch.B. D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health,

AND

WILLIAM N. LOCKEY,

M.R.San.L., Certified Meat Inspector,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.



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OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

<i>Office.</i>	<i>Officer.</i>	<i>Qualifications.</i>
Medical Officer of Health	WILLIAM CUNNINGHAM ..	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health	THEODORE CRAIG	M.B., Ch.B.
Senior Sanitary Inspector	WILLIAM N. LOCKEY	M.R.San.I., M.S.I., M.V., Cert.S.I.B., Meat & Food Inspector's Cert., R.S.I., Sanitary Science Cert., R.S.I.
Additional Sanitary Inspector	FREDERICK SPENCER	A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Cert.S.I.B.

Longbenton Urban District Council.

Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

WILLIAM CUNNINGHAM,

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1947.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
LONGBENTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my annual report for the year 1947.

VITAL STATISTICS.

There is a rise in the population mid-year 1947 as compared with mid-year 1946. The number of births registered in 1947 shows an increase of 475 as against 457 in 1946.

There were 240 deaths in 1947 as against 244 in 1946. The principal causes of death were :—

Diseases of the heart	68 cases.
Cancer (general)	40 ..
Intra-cranial lesions	28 ..

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Diphtheria.—There is a further decrease in the number of cases notified, five as against ten in 1946. Three of these cases were over 25 years of age. No deaths occurred from this disease.

Immunisation.—During the year 99 children attending school in this area were protected against Diphtheria by immunisation methods with the first and second doses. In addition 709 children attending school were given the boosting or reinforcing dose after an interval of $3\frac{1}{2}$ years from receiving the first stage of the protection. These figures are highly satisfactory and I am glad to say the protection of children against Diphtheria in this area has reached a very high standard. The very fact that the cases notified are so small in number and of such a mild nature, is a great inducement to the officials to press on with this drive against Diphtheria. I feel that all the parents in this district are fully alive to the tremendous benefit of this simple method of treatment.

against a deadly disease. Our propaganda methods continue and I am extremely grateful to your Senior Sanitary Inspector for his tremendous help in organising the treatments throughout the various schools.

Through his attention to detail the matter has been easily dealt with, with great speed and safety and without any notable dislocation of school work. I am also grateful to the local practitioners who all supported me in this work, and the school masters and school teachers who have all been very willing lieutenants. I still find that the personal touch in propaganda is the most valuable method we have. We approach the hard core of objectors by personal letters and interviews.

A table is included in the body of the report showing the numbers of cases of Diphtheria since our immunisation scheme has been in operation.

Anterior Polio Myelitis.—Two cases were notified of children under five years of age. Both recovered.

Scarlet Fever.—There was a considerable drop in the number notified, 16 cases in 1947 as against 54 in 1946.

Measles.—There was again a sharp epidemic of measles, 215 cases having been notified. No deaths occurred.

Scabies.—Twenty one families (79 persons in all) applied to the Department for treatment following instructions from the local practitioner or School Medical Service. It was necessary for three families (20 persons in all) to be treated at the Skin Clinic, Newcastle. All other cases were successfully treated at home.

MILK.

The standard of the milk supply, as revealed by our reports from the Laboratory, was maintained at a very satisfactory level. The transport difficulties seem to be clearing. I am happy to state that in all samples submitted for analysis no Tubercle Bacilli were found.

NUTRITION.

I have no evidence of any malnutrition in any class of the community as a result of present conditions.

I have to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their sympathetic consideration at all times and Mr. Lockey, the Senior Sanitary Inspector, and all the staff for their unfailing loyalty and energetic work. The routine work of the Department has not been allowed to suffer on account of extra housing problems in the district.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

W. CUNNINGHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS OF SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in Acres)	6,786
Registrar General's estimate of Resident Population, mid-year, 1917	21,020
Number of inhabited houses (31.12.17) according to Rate Book	6,811
Rateable Value	£115,399
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (31.3.47)	£454

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The chief industry is coal mining, with the exception of the residential area of Benton and Forest Hall.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Live Births— Legitimate	249	212	461
Illegitimate	4	10	14
	—	—	—
	253	222	475
	—	—	—
Still Births— Legitimate	5	1	6
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	—	—	—
	5	1	6
	—	—	—
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Population			19.77
Still Births per 1,000 Live and Still Births			12.47

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Deaths	128	112	240

DEATH RATE.

The Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated popu- lation	9.99
---	------

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still Births).
Puerperal Sepsis	Nil.	0·00
Other Maternal causes	Nil.	0·00
	—	—
	Nil.	0·00
	—	—
DEATHS OF INFANTS.	Male.	Female. Total.
Legitimate	6	10 16
Illegitimate	—	—
	—	—
	6	10 16
	—	—

DEATH RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR
OF AGE.

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	33·68
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Births	34·70
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births ..	—
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	42
.. Measles (all ages)	—
.. Whooping Cough	—
.. Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1947.

(The Mortality Rates for England and Wales refer to the whole population.)

	Rate per 1,000 Population.	ANNUAL DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.						Rate per 1,000 Live Births.
		All Causes.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Bacterial Pneum.	
ENGLAND AND WALES (1947) .	20.5	0.50	12.0	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.09	0.00
LONGBENTON (1947)	19.77	0.24	9.99	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.083	0.00
.. (1946)	19.58	0.64	10.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.085	0.00

TABLE SHOWING THE INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES SINCE THE FORMATION OF THE LONGBENTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL IN 1935.

1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
78.3	85.22	87.3	70.27	51.4	85.7	60.6	51.8	61.6	35.95	76.54	35.95	33.68

CAUSES OF DEATH IN LONGBENTON AREA, 1947.

Causes of Death.	Males.	Females.
All causes	128	112
1— Typhoid and Para Typhoid	—	—
2— Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	1
3— Scarlet Fever	—	—
4— Whooping Cough	—	—
5— Diphtheria	—	—
6— Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	3	2
7— Other Forms of Tuberculosis	4	1
8— Syphilitic Diseases	2	—
9— Influenza	1	1
10— Measles	—	—
11— Ae. Polio-myelitis and Encephalitis	—	—
12— Ae. Inf. Encephalitis	—	—
13— Cancer of buc. eav. and oesoph. (M) uterus (F)	1	2
14— Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	6	2
15— Cancer of Breast	—	7
16— Cancer of all other sites	16	3
17— Diabetes	—	—
18— Intra-cranial vascular lesions	13	15
19— Heart Diseases	35	33
20— Other Diseases of Circulatory System	5	3
21— Bronchitis	10	3
22— Pneumonia	3	9
23— Other Respiratory Diseases	3	1
24— Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	4	—
25— Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	—	1
26— Appendicitis	—	—
27— Other Digestive Diseases	2	3
28— Nephritis	5	3
29— Puer. and Post. Abort. Sepsis	—	—
30— Other Maternal Causes	—	—
31— Premature Birth	3	5
32— Con. mal. birth inj. infant dis.	1	2
33— Suicide	3	—
34— Road Traffic Accidents	1	—
35— Other Violent Causes	2	1
36— All Other Causes	4	9

There is no evidence of any unusual or excessive mortality during the year.

I have no evidence, statistical or otherwise, that conditions of occupation, environment or unemployment have exercised any significant influence on the health or physique of children or adults.

SECTION B.

1. (i) Public Health Officials: see page 2.
- (ii) (a) Laboratory facilities remain the same as in former years.
- (b) Ambulance service is the same as last year and is still under the direct supervision of the Public Health Department.
- (c) Nursing in the home is controlled by the Northumberland County Council.
- (d) There are no Hospitals in the area with the exception of the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Seaford Hill, administered by the Earsdon Joint Hospital Board, of which this Council is a Constituent Member.

Maternity and Child Welfare Service.

This service is operated and controlled by the Northumberland County Council; this Council disposed of its Ultra Violet Ray apparatus to the Northumberland County Council.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

1. WATER SUPPLY.

- (i) The water supply for the area during the last year has been satisfactory in quality and quantity. All the water for the district is supplied by the Newcastle & Gateshead Water Co. The mains supplying Annitsford, Dudley, Seaton Burn and Wideopen are still the property of the Longbenton Urban District Council, whilst all the other mains are the property of the Newcastle & Gateshead Water Co.

Seven samples were taken for Bacteriological Examination and one for Chemical Analysis. One sample was found to have 13 coli aerogenes. Further samples from this source reduced the number to one. The chemical analysis showed the water was suitable for public supply.

- (ii) *Drainage and Sewage.*—Conditions remain the same.

2. (i) *Rivers and Streams*.—See Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report.
3. (i) *Closet Accommodation*.—See Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report.
- (ii) *Public Cleansing*.—See Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report.
- (iii) *Sanitary Inspector of the Area*.—See Sanitary Inspector's Report.
- (iv) *Shops and Offices*.—See Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report.
- (v) *Camping Sites*.—No applications have been made for camping sites during 1947, and no camping sites exist in the area.
- (vi) *Smoke Abatement*.—No official action has been necessary.
- (vii) *Swimming Baths and Pools*.—There are no swimming baths or pools in the area.
- (viii) *Eradication of the Bed Bug*.—See Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report.
- (ix) *Head Lice*.—No special treatment was given.
Body Lice.—No special treatment was given.

SCHOOLS.

The schools in the area are each provided with a sufficient suitable water supply from the mains supply. Periodical inspections are made of all schools.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

See Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

- (a) *Milk Supply*.—See Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report.
- (b) *Meat and Other Foods*.—See Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report.
- (c) *Adulteration*.—This service is administered by the County Council.

- (d) *Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.*—Milk is the only food of which samples are taken for Bacteriological Examination by this Authority. These samples are examined in the County Laboratory, Newburn.
- (e) *Nutrition.*—No special educative effort was made in the nature of lectures, films, etc.
- (f) *Shellfish.*—(Molluscan)—There are no shellfish beds or layings in this area. Shellfish is rarely sold in this area.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following table gives the numbers and age groups of the cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year.

[SEE OVER PAGE].

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1947.

DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.							Hospital.	Deaths.
	AGE GROUP.								
At all Ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 to 3	3 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 25	25 and over.	Age not known	
Measles	215 (46)	12	73	53	3	1	1	13	11
Scarlet Fever	16 (54)	..	2	5	2	1	1	5	..
Diphtheria	5 (10)	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	12
Pneumonia	13 (4)	..	1	..	1	..	3	..	..
Erysipelas	2 (5)	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..
Whooping Cough	8 (14)	..	2	4	2	..	1	..	..
Malaria	1 (—)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ac. An. Polio Myel.	2 (—)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Pyrexia	1 (—)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1 (3)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
									1
									13
264	12	82	83	61	5	6	15	..	21

The following table shows the incidence of Diphtheria since 1940, when our Immunisation Scheme was commenced. It will be noted that until 1943 there were still a number of children not immunised.

YEARS.	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
No. of Cases	39	77	101	30	110	16	10	5
Deaths	2	1	4	1	..	..	..	..

SCARLET FEVER.—There was a decrease in the numbers of Scarlet Fever in 1947, 16 cases as against 54 in 1946. There were no deaths.

DIPHTHERIA.—There was a decrease in the cases of Diphtheria, 5 cases in 1947 as against 10 in 1946. All cases were of a mild type and there were no deaths.

PNEUMONIA. Thirteen cases were notified as against four in 1946.

CEREBRO SPINAL FEVER.—One case was notified. One death occurred.

MEASLES. There was an increase in the number of cases of Measles notified, 215 cases in 1947 as against 46 in 1946. There were no deaths.

WHOOPING COUGH.—There was a decrease in the number of cases notified, 8 as against 14 in 1946.

VENEREAL DISEASE.—Full support has been given to the Northumberland County Council in their propaganda against Venereal Disease. Posters have been published and handbills distributed and full information as to the places and times of the Clinics supplied to enquirers at this Public Health Department.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS. There were no cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS. No action was necessary under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, with regard to persons employed in the milk trade, nor in the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis.

TUBERCULOSIS, 1947.—The following tables are self-explanatory :—

	CASES NOTIFIED.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1 to 5 years .....	..	2	1	1	..	..	2	..
5 to 15 years	2	..	..	1	..	..	1	1
15 to 25 years	2	7	..	..	..	..	..	..
25 to 35 years	5	7	1	..	1	2	..	..
35 to 45 years	5	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
45 to 55 years	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
55 to 65 years	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
65 years and over ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTALS	16	17	2	2	2	2	4	1

The notification of cases of Tuberculosis in the area has been satisfactory. No action has been necessary in any case of neglect or refusal to notify.

PARTICULARS OF TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER
as at 31st December, 1947.

	Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.			Pulmonary and Non- Pulmonary
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	Total.
Cases on Register at 1st Jan., 1947	88	71	159	30	28	58	217
New Cases	16	17	33	2	2	4	37
Cases Removed	13	3	16	..	1	1	17
Cases transferred from Non.-Pul. to Pulmonary ...	+1	..	1	-1	..	-1	..
Cases on Register at 31st Dec., 1947	92	85	177	31	29	60	237

Longbenton Urban District Council.

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# Annual Report

OF THE

## SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1947.

~~~~~

DEAR DR. CUNNINGHAM,

I beg to submit my report upon the Sanitary Department for the year 1947.

HOUSING.—The housing shortage was, and is, still the major problem of this Authority. During the year the Council inaugurated a points allocation scheme for the letting of houses. In order to obtain the necessary details new applications had to be made and, therefore, our lists of applicants in 1947 and 1948 can be taken as an accurate guide to the number of families requiring accommodation in the area. From November, 1946, to 31st January, 1947, 1,100 applications were received, this figure steadily increased until at the end of the year there were 1,600 applicants, divided as follows:—

Category A.	Applicants with houses of their own residing in overcrowded conditions	295
..	B. Applicants without homes of their own and residing in overcrowded conditions	298
..	C. Applicants without homes of their own but not overcrowded	470
,,	D. Normal applicants desiring improved housing accommodation but not overcrowded	398
	Applicants not residing in Longbenton area	139
		1,600

It will be noted that at that time there were 768 applicants without separate homes. Disregarding allocations to louts in Military Camps, 152 allocations were made to new or existing houses during the year as follows :—

Re-housing from Clearance Areas confirmed in 1938	107
Abatement of overcrowding	42
Re-occupation of Old Person's houses	3
	152

The necessity to utilise building labour and materials towards the provision of houses for the homeless (curtailing the amount to be used for other purposes, especially for repairs), has no doubt had a retarding effect on the amount of repairs carried out. It has been a great difficulty to induce builders to tender for work to be done under Section 9 of the Housing Act.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.—Owing to the very extensive building now taking place in the district considerable strain is likely to be caused on our equipment and the Council have placed an order for a new refuse collection vehicle. In the meantime, during the winter months, when there was a large amount of refuse to collect, we have had to use the services of the utility waggon for refuse collection as well as the collection of salvage. The weather, during the Summer and Winter, following the great storm, was very temperate and we were able to cope with the work, but it is to be hoped that the additional vehicle is delivered before Winter 1948.

STATISTICS.—I beg to append below statistics relating to the refuse collection. The figures are based upon the estimated population for mid-1947 of 24,020.

House Refuse only.

Estimated quantity removed	16,875 (Tons)
Approximate average weight per house.....	2.37 (Tons)
Average quantity per house per annum	7.1 (cu. yds.)
Average per 1,000 pop. per day (365 days). 38.2 (cwts.)	
Total Cost of collection	£8,862
Cost of Disposal	£524
Payment to men when sick	£197
	—
Total Scavenging Costs	£9,583
Less Income from Salvage	£1,347
	—
	£8,236

	£	s.	d.
Cost per house	1	3	1.9
Cost per head population		6	10.3
Cost on Rates in the £		1	5.8

DISPOSAL OF REFUSE.—We are using three controlled tips at:—

1. Burradon Quarry, which still has sufficient tipping space for a number of years.
2. The Brick Field, Forest Hall, which we have on a short lease but will not be completely filled up for another year or more, according to the arrangements which have been made with the owner. When this area has been completely filled, tipping will be commenced at the Quarry at Benton. This is a large quarry which has been purchased by the Council for the purpose of tipping and eventually to be made into a park.
3. Quarry at Wideopen, site which was also purchased by the Council and which will eventually be made into an open space for that part of the district.

The tips are all in very good condition and are kept free from rats and fire.

SALVAGE.—A notable increase in the collection of waste paper and scrap metal was recorded. The weight of paper collected during the year was 84 tons 13 cwt., which was sold for £554. In addition to this sum must be added the allowance for the collection above 80% for the previous year. There was a slight fall in the amount of rags, kitchen waste and bones collected; this would be fairly general.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.—This Council has accepted the delegation of power under the Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919, from the County Council. Owing to the very hard weather at the beginning of the year, only one systematic treatment of the sewers took place. Our experience has been that the surface infestations are considerably reduced by the treatment of the rats in the sewers. The number of complaints of rat infestations are now at a very low level.

TRADE REFUSE.—No charge has been made for the removal of trade refuse so as to avoid valuable salvageable material from being destroyed.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.—It will be noted from page 18, that a large amount of work has been carried out during the year. The figures are shown under the separate headings.

TABLE I.

HORsing—										
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Structural Defects (Summary of Sheet II)	1001	395	615	1010	255	10	10	79	676	..
Defective Food-store	14	..	14	10	..	..	..	4	..	..
Dampness	29	7	36	22	..	..	..	2	12	..
Overcrowding . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Nuisances	58	14	..	14	13	..	..	..	..	..
WATER SUPPLY—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Insufficient	16	2	23	6	2	1	..	1	..	..
Unsatisfactory . . . . .	..	..	..	..	29	28	..	..	..	..
DRAINAGE—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Insufficient	176	65	14	79	69	1	..	10	..	..
Defective . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
SANITARY CONVENiences—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Insufficient	59	105	23	128	103	1	1	6	18	..
Defective . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Shops, Food-Stores, etc.	142	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dairies, Cowsheids and Milkshops	131	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Slaughter Houses	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tents, Vans, etc.	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Offensive Trades . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Workshops and Workplaces	16	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Keeping of Animals	19	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles	6	85	12	97	81	..	..	..	14	..
Ashpits improperly used . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Offensive accumulations	7	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Smoke Nuisances	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Petrol Stores	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTAL	2,675	734	679	1,413	583	1	1	28	108	721

TABLE II.
HOUSING
TABULAR STATEMENT FOR YEAR, 1947.

Houses Completed during Year.	With State Assistance.	Unaided.	Total.
(a) By Local Authority — Permanent Temporary]	130	..	130
(b) By Other Bodies or Persons — Permanent Temporary]	122	29	151
			281

1.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :—

(1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	183
(2) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	—
(3) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	178

2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or its Officer	181
--	-----

3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS :—

(A) <i>Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.</i>	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which " Notices " were served requiring repairs	17
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	9
(b) By Local Authority in default of of Owners .....	..
	—
	9

(B) *Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	10
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices :—	
(a) By Owners	9
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	—

(C) *Proceedings under Sections 11 and 12 of Housing Act, 1936.*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	—
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	62

(D) *Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—

4.—NUMBER OF HOUSES PERMANENTLY DISCONTINUED AS DWELLINGS AND NOT INCLUDED ABOVE.....

33

TABLE III.
SUMMARY OF WORK EFFECTED.

	After Letter or Interview.	After Informal Notice.	After Statutory Notice.	Total.
SANITARY CONVENIENCES—				
Privies abolished .....	..	..	..	..
“ “ repaired .....	..	..	..	..
Privy Ashpits abolished .....	..	..	..	..
“ “ roofed or repaired .....	..	..	..	..
Pail-Closets abolished .....	..	..	..	..
Water Closets provided .....	..	..	..	..
“ “ repaired	104	..	6	110
Sanitary Bins provided .....	..	..	2	..
“ “ renewed	81	..	..	83
DRAINAGE—				
New Drains constructed	1	..	..	1
Drains repaired or reconstructed	51	..	6	57
Additional Gullies provided	1	..	..	1
Old Gullies replaced	1	..	..	1
Scullery Sinks provided	1	..	..	1
“ waste-pipes repaired	9	..	4	13
“ waste-pipes trapped	2	..	..	2
Yards repaired or reconstructed	9	..	..	9
WATER SUPPLY—				
New service provided .....	..	..	1	1
No. of Houses affected .....	..	..	1	1

ERADICATION OF THE BED BUG.—Very few complaints of infestation of bed bug are received, the Council make a charge for any treatments. In the case of empty houses the landlord is expected to meet the cost. Where a house is occupied the tenant is allowed the use of a sprayer free of charge but he must pay for the solution used. All the families moving into new Council houses, whether from Slum Clearance Areas or from overcrowded houses, must have their furniture treated prior to removal and it has been noted that only a very small percentage of the old houses have been found to be infested. In the few cases where heavy infestations have been noted in the old houses a second or third treatment has been given in the new houses and this appears to be very effective. Generally the tenants raise no objections to our workmen doing the work. We are using a solution of D.D.T. in kerosine and find that this preparation is very effective.

SHOPS AND OFFICES.—It has not been found necessary to take any action with regard to the conditions found in any shops or offices throughout the district. A large house has recently been taken over by the National Coal Board as offices and we have been able, by informal action, to have additional sanitary conveniences provided.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.—No scheme has yet been put into force to abolish the common taps now serving approximately 15% of the houses in the area. It is to be hoped that a scheme will at least be partially carried out in 1948. The proportion of houses drawing supplies from common taps as compared with those with inside water supplies has been lowered considerably by the erection of new houses and the closing and demolition of houses with stand pipe supplies only.

The following shows the position with regard to inside water supplies, sinks, water closets, etc., of the whole area.

Houses.	No. of Houses with						
	Baths.	Sinks.	Inside Water Supply.	Yard Tap.	Common Tap.	W.C's.	E.C's.
7,103	4,374	5,553	257	174	1,024	7,017	86

Approximately 15% of the population are drawing from stand pipes.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.—No cases of pollution of streams were noted during the year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.—Approximately 98% of the houses in the district are connected to the water carriage system, of the remainder, all but a small proportion are included in Confirmed Clearance Areas and it is anticipated they will be cleared in the near future.

TABLE IV.

FOOD INSPECTION.

Unsound Food.		Sur- rendered.	Seized.	Legal Pro- ceedings.
1. Beef (Home-Killed)	Stones	15	..	..
2. Beef (Imported)	"	40	..	..
3. Mutton (Home-Killed) . . . . .	"	..	..	..
4. Mutton (Imported) . . . . .	"	..	..	..
5. Pork . . . . .	"	..	..	..
6. Game	Lbs.	..	..	..
7. Poultry . . . . .	"	..	..	..
8. Fish	"	14	..	..
9. Fruit	Lbs. or Cases	100 lbs.	..	..
10. Canned Goods	Tins or Cases	699	..	..
11. Bacon	Lbs.	..	..	..
12. Cheese . . . . .	"	..	..	..
13. Butter	"	2 lbs. 11 oz.	..	..
14. Lard . . . . .	"	..	..	..
15. Eggs (Dried)	"	2 pkts.	..	..
16. Other Foods— Mixed Cereals	Lbs.	392	..	..

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

The principal adopted during the war of slaughtering in Government controlled slaughter houses in the Newcastle Area is still in vogue, the meat being loaded into a vehicle at the slaughterhouse, transported and unloaded at the meat depot, weighed, loaded into the butcher's vans and taken to the butchers shops. This additional handling, to what was the practice in pre-war years, no doubt mitigates against the appearance and keeping qualities of the meat although the butcher's pool and the department work in harmony. Any suggestions made by the department are willingly accepted.

The number of cottager's pigs, slaughtered for bacon, was again slightly reduced, only 55 being slaughtered this year as against 61 in the previous year. All the pigs were inspected, only a small amount was found to be diseased. The cottagers are very desirous to have the pigs examined.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.—The following is a summary of the particulars of the Milk and Dairies Register at the 31st December, 1947 :—

Number of persons registered as cow-keepers.....	18
Number of premises registered as cow-sheds.....	19
Number of cows kept on registered premises (approx.)	160
Number of cowkeepers retailing milk	11
Number of persons registered as Dairymen in the area	18
Number of Dairymen outside the area retailing in area	9
Number of premises registered as Dairies.....	18
Number of persons registered as Retail Purveyors	48

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) ORDER, 1936.—The following are particulars of licenses granted under the above Order :—

Premises licensed for storage and sale of T.T. Milk	—
Premises licensed for storage and sale of Pasteur- ised Milk	4
Supplementary licenses to retail T.T. Milk	2
Supplementary licenses to retail Pasteurised Milk	2
Supplementary licenses to retail Accredited Milk..	—
Accredited producers	3
Tuberculin Tested producers	2

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.—Samples of milk from each supply were submitted to the County Laboratory for Bacteriological Examination and Biological Test.

MILK PRODUCED IN THE LONGBENTON AREA.

Examination.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Total.	% Satisfactory.
Methylene Blue Test	35	5	40	87.5
B.Tuberculosis	Not found. 25	Present. ..	Total. 25	% Present. Nil.

MILK PRODUCED OUTSIDE LONGBENTON AREA.

Examination.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Total.	% Satisfactory
Methylene Blue Test	8	5	13	61.5
B.Tuberculosis	Not found. 10	Present. ..	Total. 10	% Present. Nil.

GRADED MILK.

Examination.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Total.	% Satisfactory
Pasteurised— Methylene Blue Test	5	..	5	100

TOTAL NUMBER OF SAMPLES TAKEN.

Examination.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Total.	% Satisfactory.
Methylene Blue Test	48	10	58	82.7
B.Tuberculosis	Not found. 35	Present. Nil.	Total. 35	% Present. Nil.

Yours faithfully,

W. N. LOCKEY,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

